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EXAMINER

SHARMA, SUJATHA R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2681

DATE MAILED: 06/25/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/549,450

Applicant(s)

HOSAIN ET AL.

Examiner

Sujatha Sharma

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 28-34 and 36-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28-34, 36-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 28,36,³⁷ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lynch [US 5,586,338] in view of Zicker [US 5,159,625].

Regarding claims 28,36,37 Lynch discloses a method for determining whether a particular service is provided by a cellular provider comprising:

-Reading a first identification number (SID) broadcast in a first frequency band where the first SID identifies a particular service provider (see abstract, col.8, lines 5-14);

-Determining whether the broadcast SID matches a SID stored in a SID table (see col.8, lines 27-29 and lines 48-54);

-Switching to a second frequency and reading a second SID broadcast in the second frequency if the first SID does not match a SID stored in the SID table (see col.9, lines 26-39, Fig.5);

-wherein the particular cellular service is identified if the SID in the first or second frequency bands matches a SID stored in the SID table (see col.2, lines 23-32), the first and second frequency bands being cellular bands A and B (see col.8, lines 5-9).

Lynch, however, is silent to teach if neither the first or second SID are identified in the SID table and performing a high priority detection process for detecting the cellular service if data transmission are urgent; and performing a low priority detection process for detecting cellular service if data transmission are not urgent.

However Zicker teaches a method where if neither the first or second SID are identified in the SID table, performing a high priority detection process for detecting the cellular service if data transmission are urgent and performing a low priority detection process for detecting cellular service if data transmission are not urgent (see col.12, lines 3-33).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teaching of Zicker to Lynch so that the 911 emergency calls can be placed within areas where a new system selected is not available or if a new system is available and not listed on the SID list.

3. Claims 29,30,38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lynch [US 5,586,338] and Zicker [US 5,159,625] in view of Evans [US 6,311,060] and further in view of Roach [US 6,044,265].

Regarding claim 29, Lynch and Zicker as treated in claim 28 do not disclose a method of listening for cellular pages having an NPA value in a first frequency band, the NPA value indicating that the cellular provider broadcasting in the first frequency band supports the cellular service.

Evans teaches that a control message is referred to as a page and SID is carried in the control channel (see col.2, lines 1-44).

Roach teaches a method of identifying the system identification (SID) by a NPA. Roach further teaches the method of updating the SID table after a page is sensed in the said frequency block. See column 4, lines 13-44.

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It is apparent that Evans and Roach teach that listening for cellular pages having an NPA value in a first frequency band, the NPA value indicating that the cellular provider broadcasting in the first frequency band supports the cellular service.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Roach and Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order for an easy updating SID and informing the cellular set to add or remove the SIDs to the list.

Regarding claim 30, Lynch and Zicker and Evans teach a method for determining whether a particular service supported by a cellular service provider comprising all the limitations as claimed. Evans further teaches if the cellular page is not detected in the first frequency band within a period of time, switching to a second frequency band (See Fig.9). Evans and Roach further teach that listening for cellular pages having an NPA value in a first frequency band, the NPA value indicating that the cellular provider broadcasting in the first frequency band supports the cellular service (See explanation treating claim 29).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Roach and Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order for an easy updating SID and informing the cellular set to add or remove the SIDs to the list.

Regarding claim 38, Lynch and Zicker as treated in claim 28 do not disclose a method of listening for cellular pages having an NPA value in a first frequency band, the NPA value indicating that the cellular provider broadcasting in the first frequency band supports the cellular service.

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Evans teaches that a control message is referred to as a page and SID is carried in the control channel (see col.2, lines 1-44).

Roach teaches a method of identifying the system identification (SID) by a NPA. Roach further teaches the method of updating the SID table after a page is sensed in the said frequency block.

See column 4, lines 13-44.

It is apparent that Evans and Roach teach that listening for cellular pages having an NPA value in a first frequency band, the NPA value indicating that the cellular provider broadcasting in the first frequency band supports the cellular service.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Roach and Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order for an easy updating SID and informing the cellular set to add or remove the SIDs to the list.

Evans further teaches if the cellular page is not detected in the first frequency band within a period of time, switching to a second frequency band (See Fig.9). Evans and Roach further teach that listening for cellular pages having an NPA value in a first frequency band, the NPA value indicating that the cellular provider broadcasting in the first frequency band supports the cellular service (See explanation treating claim 29).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Roach and Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order for an easy updating SID and informing the cellular set to add or remove the SIDs to the list.

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4. Claims 31-34,39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lynch [US 5,586,338] and Zicker [US 5,159,625] in view of Evans [US 6,311,060].

Regarding claims 31,39, Lynch and Zicker as treated in claim 28 teach all the limitations as claimed. They are however silent to teach transmitting a page request packet in the first frequency band to a host across a cellular network and receiving a cellular page from the host in response to the page request packet thereby identifying the cellular service provider broadcasting at the first frequency band as one which supports the cellular service.

However, Zicker teach the exchange of data between host and a remotely programmable cellular mobile radiotelephone (CMR) (see col.5, lines 5-20 and Fig.1).

Evans teach transmitting and receiving a message/page in the first frequency band between the MSC and the home system and the message indicates that the particular CMR has registered in another cellular system and includes the SID and MSC number identifying the foreign CMR system (see col.2, lines 1-44, col.11, lines 3-27, 55-67 and col.12, lines 1-3). It is apparent that Lynch, Zicker and Evans teach transmitting and receiving a message in the first frequency band to a host across a cellular network.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order to collect billing information and bill the customer for using the home or foreign system.

Regarding claims 32,40, Lynch, Zicker and Evans as treated in claim 31 teach all the limitations as claimed. Evans further teaches updating the SID table to include a SID of the cellular service provider from which the cellular page was received (see col.11, lines 4-27 and Fig.9).

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Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order to facilitate roaming of the user to foreign system.

Regarding claims 33,41, Zicker and Evans as treated in claim 31 teach all the limitations as claimed. Evans further teach if the cellular page is not received within a pre-determined time, switching to a second frequency band and transmitting a second page request to a host across a cellular network, and receiving in response a cellular page from the host, thereby identifying the cellular service provider broadcasting at the second frequency band as one which supports the cellular service (see Fig.9).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order to collect billing information and bill the customer for using the home or foreign system.

Regarding claims 34,42 Lynch, Zicker and Evans as treated in claim 33 teach all the limitations as claimed. Evans further teaches updating the SID table to include a SID of the cellular service provider from which the cellular page was received (see col.11, lines 4-27 and Fig.9).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teachings of Evans to Zicker and Lynch in order to facilitate roaming of the user to foreign system.

Response to Arguments


5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 28-34 and 36-42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sujatha Sharma whose telephone number is 703-305-5298. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7.30am - 4.00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on 703-305-4778. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned and for all official communications is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.


Sujatha Sharma
June 23, 2003


ERIKA CAREY
PATENT EXAMINER